

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05 SP-02 NRC-05 AID-05 EB-08

INT-05 FEA-01 L-03 FPC-01 NSF-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /057 W

-----190433 107600 /66

P 180632Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2205

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SEOUL 1427

DEPT PASS TO SIEVERING, ERDA; LAFLEUR, NRC, AID/W, SER/CFS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, KS

SUBJECT: AGENDA: 1977 MEETING IN SEOUL OF JOINT STANDING

COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR AND OTHER ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

MATTERS

REF: STATE 9163

1. WE RECOGNIZE DEPARTMENT'S DESIRE TO DEVELOP MORE BALANCE IN SUBJECT ENERGY DISCUSSIONS WITH ROKS AND WE BELIEVE THIS SHOULD AND CAN BE DONE. WE SHOULD KEEP IN MIND HOWEVER THAT BECAUSE ROK PROSPECTING FOR OIL, NATURAL GAS AND NEW GOAL DEPOSITS HAS BEEN LARGELY UNREWARDING, ROKS NEAR TERM INTEREST IN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY IS STRONGLY FOCUSED ON USE OF KNOWN LOW GRADE URANIUM ORE DEPOSITS. ACCORDINGLY EXPECT KOREAN INTEREST IN MEETING WILL CONCENTRATE PRIMARILY ONE USE OF NUCLEAR FUEL AND THAT THEY WILL HAVE LESS INTEREST IN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON OTHER ENERGY TECHNOLOGY MATTERS. THERE ARE SOME AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST HOWEVER, SUCH AS VARIOUS MEANS OF CONSERVING FUEL, BIOGAS GENERATION AND TIDAL POWER. THERE IS NOT MUCH SERIOUS INTEREST PRESENTLY IN SOLAR OR WIND POWER.

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2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ABOVE GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS THE AGENDA PROPOSED BELOW CONSISTS OF A REVIEW OF PROGRESS UNDER EXISTING AGREEMENTS FOLLOWED BY TOPICS OF POSSIBLE MUTUAL INTEREST.

3. AGENDA

A. COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR POWER TECHNOLOGY

(1) INFORMATION EXCHANGE RELATED TO NUCLEAR POWER TECHNOLOGY, NUCLEAR FUEL FABRICATION AND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR ORES. (2) KOREA ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (KAERI) NUCLEAR TRAINING CENTER PLANNING AND REACTOR SIMULATOR SPECIFICATION. (3) REPORT ON U.S.-KOREAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY JOINT VENTURE DISCUSSIONS.

B. ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY - KAERI SISTER LABORATORY RELATIONSHIP. (1) EXCHANGE OF PERSONNEL. (2) SMALL ITEM PURCHASE ARRANGEMENT. (3) INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

C. U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) - MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOST) INFORMATION EXCHANGE ARRANGEMENT. (1) INFORMATION EXCHANGE. (2) ASSIGNMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY BUREAU STAFF AT NRC FOR REGULATORY PRACTICE AND SAFETY TRAINING. (3) NRC-MOST FUTURE COOPERATION ON REACTOR SAFETY R&D.

D. NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY TOPICS. (1) FUEL CONSERVATION: AGENDA TOPICS RELATED TO RECOVERY OF REJECT HEAT AND EFFICIENT USE OF GENERATED ELECTRICITY SUCH AS USE OF INDUSTRIAL PLANT REJECT HEAT FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSES AND DISTRICT HEATING, CONVERSION OF INDUSTRIAL PLANT REJECT HEAT TO ELECTRICAL POWER, AND ELECTRIC TRANS-MISSION GRID MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT FOR OPTIMUM DISTRIBUTION. (2) BIOGAS GENERATION: A PILOT PLANT PROJECT FOR ANAEROBIC DISESTION OF SEOUL CITY CITY SEWAGE, MOSTLY HUMAN EXCRETA, TO PRODUCE METHANE GAS INCLUDING USE OF GAMMA RADIATION TO STERLIZE END PRODUCT. CONFIDENTIAL

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NOTE: THE GOVERNMENT OF SEOUL (POPULATION OF 7.5 MILLION) IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN CONSTRUCTION OF COVERED CHANNELS TO CARRY SEWAGE FROM THE CITY ALONG THE HAN RIVER BANKS TO DOW-STREAM LOCATIONS WHERE DISPOSAL PLANTS EVENTUALLY WILL BE BUILT. AT THIS TIME, BULK OF HUMAN WASTE IS COLLECTED USING BUCKETS AND TRUCKS. A MINIMUM COST PILOT PLANT COULD BE CONSTRUCTED BECAUSE EQUIPMENT TO EXTRACT DEBRIS AND NON-PRODUCTIVE WASTE WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED. A PILOT PLANT PROPOSAL HAS BEEN PREPARED BY KOREA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (KIST) AND ERDA CONTACTED.

(3) SOIL IMPROVEMENT TO ACCELERATE TREE GREE GROWTH: BECAUSE HILLSIDE SOILS IN KOREA ARE VERY DENSE AND CONTAIN LITTLE HUMUS, TREE GROWTH IS ONE-THIRD TO ONE-FOURTH AS FAST AS IN U.S. ALTHOUGH WOOD REPRESENTS MARGINAL FUEL RESOURCE DURING PEACETIME, IT WAS ONLY FUEL AVAILABLE TO POPULACE DURING KOREAN WAR WHEN ACCESSIBLE FORESTS WERE LARGELY DECIMATED. AN AGGRESSIVE AFFORESTATION PROGRAM HAS ONCE AGAIN PUT TREES IN PLACE

BUT GROWTH IS SLOW. KIST HAS SUPPORTED STUDIES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SLOW RELEASING FERTILIZERS TO PROMOTE FASTER TREE GROWTH. (4) LOW HEAD WATER TURBINE: FEASIBILITY STUDY OF LARGE FLOW LOW HEAD WATER TURBINE-GENERATOR FOR ELECTRIC GENERATION AT NAVIGABLE RIVER WATER LOCKS OR TIDAL WATER BASIN LOCKS. KECO'S LONG-RANGE POWER DEVELOPMENT PLAN INCLUDES 400 MWE TIDAL PLANT IN 1987.

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-----190429 090666 /66

P 180632Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2206

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SEOUL 1427

E. AGREEMENT ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. (1) STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AND KOREA SCIENCE FOUNDATION COOPERATION. NOTE: US. AND KOREA SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICIALS ARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO MEET MAY 16-18 FOR SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, INITIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AND BIO-ENGINEERING DISCUSSIONS.

4. SHORTLY BEFORE RECEIPT REFTTEL ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSIONER LEE BYONG-WHIE HAD SUGGESTED APRIL MEETING DATE BUT HE NOW AGREES MEETING SHOULD BE HELD WEEK OF MAY 23 OR SOON THEREAFTER.

5. TENTATIVE KOREAN JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE DELEGATES ARE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSIONER LEE BYONG-WHIE, KAERI PRESIDENT YOUNG YOUNG-KU AND A MEMBER OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. KINDLY ADVISE NAMES OF U.S. DELEGATES.

6. BACKGROUND COMMENT ON GOAL MINING PROBLEMS: THIS SUBJECT MIGHT BE ON AGENDA; HOWEVER WE HAVE NOT INCLUDED IT BECAUSE WE SEE LITTLE POINT IN DISCUSSION. KOREAN GOAL DEPOSITS ARE CHARACTERIZED BY A NUMBER OF ASPECTS DISADVANTAGEOUS TO MODERN MINING TECHNIQUES KOREA ELECTRIC COMPANY PLANS TO IMPORT BITUMINOUS COAL FOR TWO NEW 500 MWE PLANTS WHICH ARE

SCHEDULED TO COME ON LINE IN 1981 AND 1982. KOREAN COAL SEAMS  
ARE DISCONTINUOUS DUE TO EXTENSIVE FAULTING, OF VARIED THICKNESS  
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BUT MOSTLY THIN) AND ALMOST ALL LOCATED DEEP ENOUGH TO EXCLUDE  
SURFACE MINING. WORKING THE MINES IS A LABOR INTENSIVE  
OPERATION NOW AND SEAM CHARACTERISTICS DICTATE IT WILL  
CONTINUE TO BE SO. THE COAL IS LARGELY META ANTHRACITE  
WITH A CALORIFIC VALUE RANGING FROM 4,000 C/KG TO  
6000 C/KG. IT IS PRIMARILY USED FOR DOMESTIC COOKING  
AND WARMING PEOPLE.  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009